



**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Human and Community Development Committee
Minutes**

February 9, 2015

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
DuPage County Conference Room
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Committee Members Present (* indicates that member participated via webinar): Gina Massuda Barnett* (Cook County Department of Public Health), Jennifer Becker (KKCOM), Jennifer Clary (Social IMPACT Research Center/Heartland Alliance), Sheri Cohen (Chicago Department of Public Health), Judith Gethner, Illinois Partners for Human Service, Joanna Greene* (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership), Jay Readey* (Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights), Mary Keating* (DuPage County), Michael Davidson (Chicago Community Trust), Tammy Wierciak* (West Central Municipal Conference)

Others Present: Lillian Lahr (Chicago Transit Authority)

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Jonathan Burch, Andrew Williams-Clark

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Sheri Cohen, committee co-chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

No agenda changes or announcements were made.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – November 3, 2014

The minutes from December 8, 2014 were unanimously approved.

4.0 CMAP Executive Transition

Drew Williams-Clark, interim staff liaison to the committee, gave an overview of recent developments regarding CMAP's executive director. In January Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director (ED), announced that, effective January 31, he was resigning from CMAP to accept the Governor's appointment as Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation. The Board accepted the resignation and designated the Executive

Committee as the Search Committee with Rita Athas the chair of the search. The Board requested a procurement be conducted for an executive search firm to assist in the recruitment and appointment of the Executive Director. Staff will keep the committee apprised as the search unfolds.

5.0 Overview of *Homes for a Changing Region* project

Jonathan Burch provided an update on CMAP's partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and MPC to provide housing policy plans to municipalities through the LTA program. *Homes* plans rely on data analysis, outreach, and discussions with local policy makers to develop policy recommendations that will allow the private market to respond to demand at all ages and income levels. Over the past 5 years, the team has learned several lessons. The best scale for housing market analysis may be smaller than the region, but larger than the municipality. In most communities, web-based outreach appears to be most effective, but must always be supplemented to engage populations with limited experience or access to the web. Since completing the region's Fair Housing and Equity Assessment, CMAP has incorporated recommendations to help affirmatively further fair housing in all of the plans.

Moving forward, the project will continue to evolve in terms of tools and process. A toolkit will be released in February to support local governments and consultants in creating their own *Homes* plans. The partners are also exploring different ways of incorporating components of the process into different types of plans. Comprehensive plans produced for Zion and North Chicago through the LTA program will incorporate a more robust housing market analysis and recommendations. CMAP has also contracted with Teska Associates to provide a *Homes* plan for three municipalities in DuPage County. Finally, CMAP will continue to improve the forecast model over the next few years.

Members encouraged CMAP to incorporate a public health framing into the analytical component of the process and look into the relationship between building codes and health outcomes. Others were interested to learn about coordination with the State of Illinois and encouraged the team to reach out to human service officials. One committee member asked about the tenor of dialog regarding "affordable housing." The *Homes* project defines affordability in terms of housing cost burden. A unit is considered "affordable" if a household can occupy it without spending more than 30% of its income on housing cost, regardless of the household's income. Finally, another member asked if the *Homes* process had been used in any of the LTA projects in Chicago. The *Homes* forecast model informed analysis in both Green Healthy Neighborhoods projects.

6.0 LTA Update

Erin Aleman provided an overview of the selection process and the projects selected. During the most recent call for projects, which ended on June 26, CMAP received 104 applications for assistance. Further information on applications received is available at: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/Ita/call-for-projects>. In total, 25 new projects were selected to be pursued through the LTA program. These projects were selected by applying CMAP's selection criteria: alignment of the project with the recommendations of GO TO 2040; local need for assistance; feasibility and ability to implement; collaboration with other groups, including neighboring governments and nongovernmental groups; input from relevant Counties and Councils of Government

(COGs); and geographic balance. Additionally, as CMAP has completed LTA projects, the implementation of completed projects has become an increasing priority. Several of the applications received help to implement projects that had been previously undertaken through the LTA program; many of those projects were selected.

She also highlighted several projects that will have particular need for committee input. Projects selected fell into six broad categories, including regional infrastructure, county-level economic development, planning priorities reports, capital improvement programs, zoning and regulatory process improvements, and comprehensive and subarea plans. Ms. Aleman identified several plans that might benefit from committee discussion:

- 1) a **transportation plan** to support the proposed **Pullman National Historical Park** that was submitted by the National Parks and Conservation Association and will be conducted in partnership with the City's historic preservation division
- 2) a **neighborhood plan** for several neighborhoods on **Chicago's northwest side** which will focus primarily on transportation and stormwater management. This project was inspired by applications from two applicants – the Center for Neighborhood Technology and the North River Commission – that covered a similar geography. Chicago DPD and Chicago DOT will both be involved in the plan, which will support the Chicago Neighborhoods 2014 strategic planning effort.
- 3) a plan for the **Preston Heights neighborhood** in unincorporated Will County, which will be similar the Fairmont plan that CMAP conducted during the first year of the LTA program
- 4) a project submitted by **DuPage County** which will address **bicycle and pedestrian** improvements in coordination with the new Elgin O'Hare Western Access facility

The committee also asked that it be kept apprised of comprehensive planning efforts that might have a health element. Ms. Aleman identified the South Holland comprehensive plan as one such project.

7.0 New Plan Development

Staff continue to examine the expected approach to human and community development in the next long-range regional plan. This involves a review of both internal and external developments since the adoption of GO TO 2040. Staff also expect to identify new tools and analysis that should be conducted early in the planning process. This was the third of three discussions to solicit committee input in the project.

Drew Williams-Clark gave a presentation identifying ways that public health was addressed in GO TO 2040 and several LTA projects. He also described lessons learned through a workshop CMAP held in 2013 that brought almost 50 representatives from the region's seven Counties, the City of Chicago, and organizations with a regional planning focus to dialogue about integrating land use, transportation and health planning and policy. Finally, Drew presented highlights from a staff review of the ways that other regional planning agencies have addressed public health in their long range plans and programs.

Several committee members encouraged CMAP to engage the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) in the development of the next plan. Others encouraged the agency to consider using the “social determinants of health” and “environmental justice” as concepts to frame the treatment of public health in the plan. In general the committee is pleased that CMAP has begun to address fair housing in LTA projects and to think about the treatment of equity in the next plan.

8.0 Public Comment

Jennifer Clary announced that the 2015 [report on poverty in Illinois](#) has been released. She will give a presentation on its findings in March. Sheri Cohen announced that CDPH, IPHI, and DPD are partnering to conduct an HIA on the impact of new infrastructure development in the Englewood neighborhood. IPHI will also provide an HIA training on February 18.

9.0 Next Meeting

The Human and Community Development Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, March 9, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.